AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Previously presented):

A lighting device comprising:

(a) an electroluminescence device which acts as a light source; and

(b) an optical conductor which introduces a light emitted from said electroluminescence device, to a liquid crystal display device,

said electroluminescence device being formed on an end surface of said optical conductor,

said electroluminescence device is comprised of a plurality of electroluminescence device groups each including a plurality of sub-devices emitting lights having different wavelengths from one another, and

said electroluminescence device groups are periodically repeatedly arranged in a direction in which sub-devices are arranged.

Claim 6 (Previously presented):

A lighting device comprising:

(a) an electroluminescence device which acts as a light source; and

(b) an optical conductor which introduces a light emitted from said electroluminescence device, to a liquid crystal display device,

said electroluminescence device being formed on an end surface of said optical conductor,

said electroluminescence device is comprised of a plurality of electroluminescence device groups each including a plurality of sub-devices emitting lights having different wavelengths from one another, and

said electroluminescence device groups are periodically repeatedly arranged in a direction perpendicular to a direction in which sub-devices are arranged.

Claim 7 (Cancelled)

Claim 8 (Previously presented):

A lighting device comprising:

(a) an electroluminescence device which acts as a light source; and

(b) an optical conductor which introduces a light emitted from said electroluminescence device, to a liquid crystal display device,

said electroluminescence device being formed on an end surface of said optical conductor,

said electroluminescence device is comprised of a plurality of electroluminescence device groups each including a plurality of sub-devices emitting lights having different wavelengths from one another, and

partitions between which said sub-devices are arranged or which at least partially surrounds said sub-devices.

Claim 9 (Original):

The lighting device as set forth in claim 8, wherein each of said partitions is comprised of resist.

Claims 10-12 (Cancelled)

Claim 13 (Previously presented):

A lighting device comprising:

(a) an electroluminescence device which acts as a light source; and

(b) an optical conductor which introduces a light, emitted from said electroluminescence device, to a liquid crystal display device,

said electroluminescence device being formed on an end surface of said optical conductor,

said electroluminescence device is comprised of a plurality of electroluminescence device groups each including a plurality of sub-devices emitting lights having different wavelengths from one another,

said electroluminescence device has a multi-layered structure including a transparent electrode layer, a hole-injecting layer, a light-emitting layer, an electron-transporting layer, and a metal electrode layer stacked in this order as viewed from said optical conductor and

at least one of said metal electrode layer, said electron-transporting layer, said hole-injecting layer and said transparent electrode layer is formed across said sub-devices such that each of said sub-devices commonly includes said at least one of said metal electrode layer, said electron-transporting layer, said hole-injecting layer and said transparent electrode layer.

Claim 14 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 13, wherein one of said metal electrode layer and said transparent electrode layer is

formed across said sub-devices, and the other has a smaller width than a width of each of said sub-devices.

Claim 15 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 13, wherein said light-emitting layer and said electron-transporting layer are replaced with a single layer having the functions of said light-emitting layer and said electron-transporting layer.

Claim 16 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 13, wherein said light-emitting layer, said electron-transporting layer and said hole-injecting layer are replaced with a single layer having the functions of said light-emitting layer, said electron-transporting layer and said hole-injecting layer.

Claims 17-19 (Cancelled)

Claim 20 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, further comprising a light-permeable expander formed on said end surface of said optical conductor,

said electroluminescence device being formed on said expander such that a dispersion angle of a light emitted from said electroluminescence device is reduced.

Claim 21 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 20, wherein

said electroluminescence device has a shape reflecting a shape of a surface of said expander.

Claim 22 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 21, wherein said expander has an arcuate surface.

Claim 23 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 20, wherein said electroluminescence device is comprised of a transparent electrode layer, a holeinjecting layer, a light-emitting layer, an electron transporting layer and a metal electrode layer stacked in this order as viewing from said optical conductor, and wherein
said expander has an index of refraction greater than indices of refraction of said hole-injecting layer, said light-emitting layer and said electron-transporting layer.

Claims 24-32 (Cancelled)

Claim 33 (Cancelled)

Claim 34 (Previously presented): A lighting device comprising:

(a) an electroluminescence device which acts as a light source; and

(b) an optical conductor which introduces a light emitted from said electroluminescence device, to a liquid crystal display device,

said electroluminescence device being at least partially embedded in said optical conductor such that at least one layer among layers constituting said electroluminescence device is embedded in said optical conductor, and

a face of said electroluminescence device through which said electroluminescence device emits a light is formed in the form of a line in a length-wise direction of said end surface of said optical conductor.

Claim 35 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 34, further comprising a reflector covering said end surface of said optical conductor to prevent a light having been introduced into said optical conductor from said electroluminescence device, from leaking out of said end surface of said optical conductor.

Claim 36 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 34, wherein said electroluminescence device is comprised of a plurality of electroluminescence device groups each including a plurality of sub-devices emitting lights having different wavelengths from one another.

Claim 37 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 36, wherein said electroluminescence device groups are periodically repeatedly arranged in a direction in which sub-devices are arranged.

Claim 38 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 36, wherein said electroluminescence device groups are periodically repeatedly arranged in a direction perpendicular to a direction in which sub-devices are arranged.

Claim 39 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 36, wherein each of said electroluminescence device groups includes a first sub-device emitting a red

light, a second sub-device emitting a green light, and a third sub-device emitting a blue light.

Claim 40 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 36, further comprising partitions between which said sub-devices are arranged or which at least partially surrounds said sub-devices.

Claim 41 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 40, wherein each of gaid partitions is comprised of resist.

Claim 42 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 34, wherein said electroluminescence device emits a light having a mixture color of red, green and blue.

Claim 43 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 34, wherein said electroluminescence device has a multi-layered structure including a transparent electrode layer, a hole-injecting layer, a light-emitting layer, an electron-transporting layer, and a metal electrode layer stacked in this order as viewing from said optical conductor.

Claim 44 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 34, wherein said electroluminescence device is comprised of a plurality of electroluminescence device groups each including a plurality of sub-devices emitting lights having different wavelengths from one another, and said electroluminescence device has a multi-layered structure including a transparent electrode layer, a hole-injecting layer, a light-emitting layer, an electron-

transporting layer, and a metal electrode layer stacked in this order as viewing from said optical conductor.

Claim 45 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 44, wherein at least one of said metal electrode layer, said electron-transporting layer, said hole-injecting layer and said transparent electrode layer is formed across said sub-devices such that each of said sub-devices commonly includes said at least one of said metal electrode layer, said electron-transporting layer, said hole-injecting layer and said transparent electrode layer.

Claim 46 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 45, wherein one of said metal electrode layer and said transparent electrode layer is formed across said subdevices, and the other has a smaller width than a width of each of said sub-devices.

Claim 47 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 45, wherein said light-emitting layer and said electron-transporting layer are replaced with a single layer having the functions of said light-emitting layer and said electron-transporting layer.

Claim 48 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 45, wherein said light-emitting layer, said electron-transporting layer and said hole-injecting layer are replaced with a single layer having the functions of said light-emitting layer, said electron-transporting layer and said hole-injecting layer.

Claim 49 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 34, wherein said electroluminescence device emits a light by applying a current to a thin organic film.

Claim 50 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 34, wherein said optical conductor is formed with a sawtooth-shaped portion at a first surface through which a light emitted from said electroluminescence device passes outwardly.

Claim 51 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 50, wherein said sawtooth portion is defined by surfaces extending in parallel with said first surface and surfaces extending perpendicularly to said first surface.

Claim 52 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 34, wherein said optical conductor is tapered at at least one of upper and lower surfaces adjacent to said end surface such that an incident angle of a light emitted from said electroluminescence device into said optical conductor is reduced.

Claim 53 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 36, wherein said optical conductor is tapered around each of said electroluminescence device groups at at least one of upper and lower surfaces adjacent to said end surface associated with each of said electroluminescence device groups such that an incident angle of a light emitted from each of said electroluminescence device groups into said optical conductor is reduced.

Claim 54 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 34, further comprising a resin entirely covering said electroluminescence device therewith to hermetically seal said electroluminescence device from surroundings.

Claim 55 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 34, further comprising a sealing cap entirely covering said electroluminescence device therewith to hermetically seal said electroluminescence device from surroundings.

Claim 56 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 54, further comprising at least one of a deoxidizer and a dehydrator sandwiched between said resin and said electroluminescence device.

Claim 57 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 55, further comprising at least one of a deoxidizer and a dehydrator sandwiched between said sealing cap and said electroluminescence device.

Claim 58 (Original): The lighting device as set forth in claim 55, wherein said sealing cap has a function of at least one of deoxidization and dehydration.

Claims 59-62 (Cancelled)

Claim 63 (Cancelled)

Claim 64 (Previously presented): The liquid crystal display device as set forth in claim 65, further comprising:

(e) a brightness detector which detects a brightness around said liquid crystal display device; and

(1) a controller which turns said lighting device on or off in accordance with said brightness detected by said brightness detector.

Claim 65 (Previously presented): A liquid crystal display device comprising:

(a) a first substrate;

(b) a second substrate;

(c) a liquid crystal layer sandwiched between said first and second substrates; and

(d) a lighting device emitting a light through said second substrate, said liquid crystal layer and said first substrate in this order such that a viewer can see produced images through said light having been reflected at said first substrate, said lighting device including:

(d1) an electroluminescence device which acts as a light source; and

(d2) an optical conductor which introduces a light emitted from said electroluminescence device, to a liquid crystal display device,

said electroluminescence device being at least partially embedded in said optical conductor such that at least one layer among layers constituting said electroluminescence device is embedded in said optical conductor,

said electroluminescence device is comprised of a first sub-device emitting a red light, a second sub-device emitting a green light, and a third sub-device emitting a blue light, and wherein images which have to be displayed as red, green or blue images are presented in synchronization with

emission of said red, green or blue light from said first, second or third sub-device, respectively.

Claims 66-67 (Cancelled)

Claims 68 (Currently amended): The method as set forth in claim [[67]]69, wherein said light-permeable expander is formed by injection molding.

Claim 69 (Currently amended): ~~The method as set forth in claim 67~~,

A method of fabricating a lighting device including an electroluminescence device which acts as a light source, and an optical conductor which introduces a light emitted from said electroluminescence device, to a liquid crystal display device, comprising the steps of (a) forming said electroluminescence device on an end surface of said optical conductor and (b) forming a light-permeable expander on said end surface of said optical conductor, said electroluminescence device being formed on said light-permeable expander, wherein said step (b) includes the steps of:

(b1) applying a first material onto said end surface of said optical conductor, said first material having a softening temperature lower than a softening temperature of a material of which said optical conductor is composed; and

(b2) annealing said optical conductor to soften said first material.

Claim 70 (Currently amended): The method as set forth in [[67]] 69, wherein said light-permeable expander is formed by ink-jet injection.

Claim 71 (Cancelled)

Claim 72 (Previously presented):

A method of fabricating a lighting device including

an electroluminescence device which acts as a light source, and

an optical conductor which introduces a light emitted from said electroluminescence device, to a liquid crystal display device,

comprising the steps of:

(a) forming said electroluminescence device on an end surface of said optical conductor,

(b) forming a wiring pattern on said end surface of said optical conductor; and

(c) electrically connecting a transparent electrode and a metal electrode of said electroluminescence device to said wiring pattern through an electrical conductor.

Claims 73-

75 (Cancelled)

Claim 76 (Previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 77, further comprising the step of (d) forming a recess at said end surface of said optical conductor, said electroluminescence device being formed in said recess.

Claim 77 (Previously presented): A method of fabricating a lighting device including an electroluminescence device which acts as a light source, and an optical

conductor which introduces a light emitted from said electroluminescence device, to a liquid crystal display device, comprising the steps of

(a) forming said electroluminescence device such that at least one layer among layers constituting said electroluminescence device is embedded in said optical conductor,

(b) forming a wiring pattern on said end surface of said optical conductor; and

(c) electrically connecting a transparent electrode and a metal electrode of said electroluminescence device to said wiring pattern through an electrical conductor.

Claim 78 (Previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 77, further comprising the step of forming a reflector covering said end surface of said optical conductor to prevent a light, having been introduced into said optical conductor from said electroluminescence device, from leaking out of said end surface of said optical conductor.

Claim 79 (Previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 77, further comprising the step of tapering said optical conductor at at least one of upper and lower surfaces adjacent to said end surface such that an incident angle of a light emitted from said electroluminescence device into said optical conductor is reduced.

Claim 80 (Cancelled)

Claim 81 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5,

wherein a face of said electroluminescence device through which said electroluminescence device emits a light is formed in the form of a line in a length-wise direction of said end surface of said optical conductor.

Claim 82 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, further comprising a reflector covering said end surface of said optical conductor to prevent a light, having been introduced into said optical conductor from said electroluminescence device, from leaking out of said end surface of said optical conductor.

Claim 83 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, wherein a face of said electroluminescence device through which said electroluminescence device emits a light is formed in the form of a line in a length wise direction of said end surface of said optical conductor.

Claim 84 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, further comprising a reflector covering said end surface of said optical conductor to prevent a light, having been introduced into said optical conductor from said electroluminescence device, from leaking out of said end surface of said optical conductor.

Claim 85 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, wherein each of said electroluminescence device groups includes a first sub-device emitting a red light, a second sub-device emitting a green light, and a third sub device emitting a blue light.

Claim 86 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, wherein each of said electroluminescence device groups includes a first sub-device emitting a red light, a second sub-device emitting a green light, and a third sub device emitting a blue light.

Claim 87 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, wherein said electroluminescence device emits a light having a mixture color of red, green and blue.

Claim 88 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, wherein said electroluminescence device has a multi-layered structure including a transparent electrode layer, a hole-injecting layer, a light-emitting layer, an electron-transporting layer, and a metal electrode layer stacked in this order as viewing from said optical conductor.

Claim 89 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, wherein said electroluminescence device is comprised of a plurality of electroluminescence device groups each including a plurality of sub-devices emitting lights having different wavelengths from one another, and said electroluminescence device has a multi-layered structure including a transparent electrode layer, a hole-injecting layer, a light-emitting layer, an electron-transporting layer, and a metal electrode layer stacked in this order as viewing from said optical conductor.

Claim 90 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, wherein said electroluminescence device emits a light having a mixture color of red, green and blue.

Claim 91 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, wherein said electroluminescence device has a multi-layered structure including a transparent electrode layer, a hole-injecting layer, a light-emitting layer, an electron-transporting layer, and a metal electrode layer stacked in this order as viewing from said optical conductor.

Claim 92 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, wherein said electroluminescence device is comprised of a plurality of electroluminescence device groups each including a plurality of sub-devices emitting lights having different wavelengths from one another, and said electroluminescence device has a multi-layered structure including a transparent electrode layer, a hole-injecting layer, a light-emitting layer, an electron-transporting layer, and a metal electrode layer stacked in this order as viewing from said optical conductor.

Claim 93 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 8, wherein said electroluminescence device emits a light having a mixture color of red, green and blue.

Claim 94 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 8, wherein said electroluminescence device has a multi-layered structure including a

transparent electrode layer, a hole-injecting layer, a light-emitting layer, an electron-transporting layer, and a metal electrode layer stacked in this order as viewing from said optical conductor.

Claim 95 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 8, wherein said electroluminescence device is comprised of a plurality of electroluminescence device groups each including a plurality of sub-devices emitting lights having different wavelengths from one another, and said electroluminescence device has a multi-layered structure including a transparent electrode layer, a hole-injecting layer, a light-emitting layer, an electron-transporting layer, and a metal electrode layer stacked in this order as viewing from said optical conductor.

Claim 96 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, wherein said electroluminescence device emits a light by applying a current to a thin organic film.

Claim 97 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, wherein said optical conductor is formed with a sawtooth-shaped portion at a first surface through which a light emitted from said electroluminescence device passes outwardly.

Claim 98 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 97, wherein said sawtooth portion is defined by surfaces extending in parallel with said first surface and surfaces extending perpendicularly to said first surface.

Claim 99 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, wherein said electroluminescence device emits a light by applying a current to a thin organic film.

Claim 100 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, wherein said optical conductor is formed with a sawtooth-shaped portion at a first surface through which a light emitted from said electroluminescence device passes outwardly.

Claim 101 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 100, wherein said sawtooth portion is defined by surfaces extending in parallel with said first surface and surfaces extending perpendicularly to said first surface.

Claim 102 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 8, wherein said electroluminescence device emits a light by applying a current to a thin organic film.

Claim 103 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 8, wherein said optical conductor is formed with a sawtooth-shaped portion at a first surface through which a light emitted from said electroluminescence device passes outwardly.

Claim 104 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 103, wherein said sawtooth portion is defined by surfaces extending in parallel with said first surface and surfaces extending perpendicularly to said first surface.

Claim 105 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, further comprising a light-permeable expander formed on said end surface of said optical conductor, said electroluminescence device being formed on said expander such that a dispersion angle of a light emitted from said ectroluminescence device is reduced.

Claim 106 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 105, wherein said electroluminescence device has a shape reflecting a shape of a surface of said expander.

Claim 107 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 106, wherein said expander has an arcuate surface.

Claim 108 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 105, wherein

said electroluminescence device is comprised of a transparent electrode layer, a holeinjecting layer, a light-emitting layer, an electron transporting layer and a metal electrode layer stacked in this order as viewing from said optical conductor, and wherein

said expander has an index of refraction greater than indices of refraction of said hole-injecting layer, said light-emitting layer and said electron-transporting layer.

Claim 109 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 8, further comprising a light-permeable expander formed on said end surface of said optical conductor,

said electroluminescence device being formed on said expander such that a dispersion angle of a light emitted from said electroluminescence device is reduced.

Claim 110 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 109, wherein said electroluminescence device has a shape reflecting a shape of a surface of said expander.

Claim 111 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 110, wherein said expander has an arcuate surface.

Claim 112 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 109, wherein

said electroluminescence device is comprised of a transparent electrode layer, a holeinjecting layer, a light-emitting layer, an electron transporting layer and a metal electrode layer stacked in this order as viewing from said optical conductor, and

wherein said expander has an index of refraction greater than indices of refraction of said hole-injecting layer, said light-emitting layer and said electron-transporting layer.

Claim 113 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, wherein said optical conductor is formed at said end surface thereof with a recess in which said electroluminescence device is formed.

Claim 114 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 113,

wherein said recess is arcuate.

Claim 115 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, wherein said optical conductor is tapered at at least one of upper and lower surfaces adjacent to said end surface such that an incident angle of a light emitted from said electroluminescence device into said optical conductor is reduced.

Claim 116 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, wherein said optical conductor is tapered around each of said electroluminescence device groups at at least one of upper and lower surfaces adjacent to said end surface associated with each of said electroluminescence device groups such that an incident angle of a light emitted from each of said electroluminescence device groups into said optical conductor is reduced.

Claim 117 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, further comprising a resin entirely covering said electroluminescence device therewith to hermetically seal said electroluminescence device from surroundings.

Claim 118 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 5, further comprising a sealing cap entirely covering said electroluminescence device therewith to hermetically seal said electroluminescence device from surroundings.

Claim 119 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 117, further comprising at least one of a deoxidizer and a dehydrator sandwiched between said resin and said electroluminescence device.

Claim 120 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 118, further comprising at least one of a deoxidizer and a dehydrator sandwiched between said sealing cap and said electroluminescence device.

Claim 121 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 118, wherein said sealing cap has a function of at least one of deoxidization and dehydration.

Claim 122 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, wherein said optical conductor is formed at said end surface thereof with a recess in which said electroluminescence device is formed.

Claim 123 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 122, wherein said recess is arcuate.

Claim 124 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, wherein said optical conductor is tapered at at least one of upper and lower surfaces adjacent to said end surface such that an incident angle of a light emitted from said electroluminescence device into said optical conductor is reduced.

Claim 125 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, wherein said optical conductor is tapered around each of said electroluminescence device groups at at least one of upper and lower surfaces adjacent to said end surface associated with each of said electroluminescence device groups such that an incident angle of a light emitted from each of said electroluminescence device groups into said optical conductor is reduced.

Claim 126 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, further comprising a resin entirely covering said electroluminescence device therewith to hermetically seal said electroluminescence device from surroundings.

Claim 127 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 6, further comprising a sealing cap entirely covering said electroluminescence device therewith to hermetically seal said electroluminescence device from surroundings.

Claim 128 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 126, further comprising at least one of a deoxidizer and a dehydrator sandwiched between said resin and said electroluminescence device.

Claim 129 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 127, further comprising at least one of a deoxidizer and a dehydrator sandwiched between said sealing cap and said electroluminescence device.

Claim 130 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 127, wherein said sealing cap has a function of at least one of deoxidization and dehydration.

Claim 131 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 8, wherein said optical conductor is formed at said end surface thereof with a recess in which said electroluminescence device is formed.

Claim 132 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 131, wherein said recess is arcuate.

Claim 133 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 8, wherein said optical conductor is tapered at at least one of upper and lower surfaces adjacent to said end surface such that an incident angle of a light emitted from said electroluminescence device into said optical conductor is reduced.

Claim 134 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 8, wherein said optical conductor is tapered around each of said electroluminescence device groups at at least one of upper and lower surfaces adjacent to said end surface associated with each of said electroluminescence device groups such that an incident angle of a light emitted from each of said electroluminescence device groups into said optical conductor is reduced.

Claim 135 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 8, further comprising a resin entirely covering said electroluminescence device therewith to hermetically seal said electroluminescence device from surroundings.

Claim 136 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 8, further comprising a sealing cap entirely covering said electroluminescence device therewith to hermetically seal said electroluminescence device from surroundings.

Claim 137 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 135, further comprising at least one of a deoxidizer and a dehydrator sandwiched between said resin and said electroluminescence device.

Claim 138 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 136, further comprising at least one of a deoxidizer and a dehydrator sandwiched

between said sealing cap and said electroluminescence device.

Claim 139 (Previously presented): The lighting device as set forth in claim 136, wherein said sealing cap has a function of at least one of deoxidization and dehydration.

Claim 140 (Cancelled)

Claim 141 (Previously presented): The liquid crystal display device as set forth in claim 142, further comprising:

(f) a brightness detector which detects a brightness around said liquid crystal display device; and

(g) a controller which turns said lighting device on or off in accordance with said brightness detected by said brightness detector.

Claim 142 (Previously presented):

A liquid crystal display device comprising:

(a) a first substrate;

(b) a second substrate;

(c) a liquid crystal layer sandwiched between said first and second substrates;

(d) a lighting device emitting a light through said first substrate, said liquid crystal layer and said second substrate in this order such that a viewer can see produced images through said light, said lighting device including:

(dl) an electroluminescence device which acts as a light source; and

(d2) an optical conductor which introduces a light emitted from said electroluminescence device, to a liquid crystal display device,

said electroluminescence device being formed on an end surface of said optical conductor, and

(e) a half-mirror located between said first substrate and said optical conductor,

said electroluminescence device being comprised of a first sub-device emitting a red light, a second sub-device emitting a green light, and a third sub-device emitting a blue light, and images which have to be displayed as red, green or blue images are presented in synchronization with emission of said red, green or blue light from said first, second or third sub-device, respectively.

Claim 143 (Cancelled)

Claim 144 (Currently amended): The method as set forth in claim [[67]]69, further comprising the step of forming a reflector covering said end surface of said optical conductor to prevent a light, having been introduced into said optical conductor from said electroluminescence device, from leaking out of said end surface of said optical conductor.

Claim 145 (Currently amended): The method as set forth in claim [[67]]69, further comprising the step of tapering said optical conductor at at least one of

upper and lower surfaces adjacent to said end surface such that an incident angle of a light emitted from said electroluminescence device into said optical conductor is reduced.